

with the Court your defenses or objections to the claims set forth against you. You are warned that if you fail to do so, the case may proceed without you and a judgment may be entered against you by the Court without further notice for any money claimed for any other claim or relief requested by the plaintiff. You may lose money or property or other rights important to you.

YOU SHOULD TAKE THIS PAPER TO YOUR LAWYER AT ONCE. IF YOU DO NOT HAVE A LAWYER OR CANNOT AFFORD ONE, GO TO OR TELEPHONE THE OFFICE SET FORTH BELOW TO FIND OUT WHERE YOU CAN GET LEGAL HELP.

Philadelphia Bar Association

1101 Market St # 11

Philadelphia, PA

Phone (215) 238-1701

PA Bar Association: www/pabar.org

LAW OFFICES OF JAMES L. BARLOW



SUSAN J. WIENER, ESQUIRE

Attorney for Defendant

Richard Devastey

Pursuant to Rule 2252 of the Pennsylvania Rules of Civil Procedure, defendant Richard Devastey hereby brings this Joinder Complaint against additional Defendant, Bernard August, indiv. and t/a Marisa Mango Real Estate, and in support thereof avers as follows:

1. On June 6, 2011, the plaintiff, Frances Joyce, filed a Complaint in the Court of Common Pleas of Philadelphia County, Pennsylvania against Defendant, Richard Devastey, and other parties. Without admitting the truth of the within allegations, the plaintiff's Complaint is attached hereto and marked Exhibit "A".

2. The defendant, Richard Devastey, was served with the Complaint on or about October 29, 2011.

3. In the Complaint, plaintiff alleges that Defendant, Richard Devastey, failed to maintain the sidewalk of 6714 Dicks Avenue, Philadelphia, PA, in a safe condition, causing the alleged personal injuries. (Exhibit "A").

4. Attached as Exhibit "B" is a true and correct copy of Defendant, Richard Devastey's Answer to the Complaint denying all averments of negligence and raising as an affirmative defense all the protections applicable to a landlord out of possession.

5. Without admitting the truth thereof, Defendant, Richard Devastey, incorporates by reference the allegations of the Complaint as though same were fully set forth at length herein.

6. Additional Defendant, Bernard August, individually and t/a Marisa Mango Real Estate, has a principal place of business at 5601 Chester Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19143.

7. At all material times, Additional Defendant, Bernard August, individually and t/a Marisa Mango Real Estate, had a verbal or other contract with Defendant, Richard Devastey, to

manage, maintain, inspect, repair and otherwise be responsible for the real property located at 6714 Dicks Avenue, Philadelphia, PA, where the alleged accident occurred.

8. The damages suffered by Plaintiff were proximately caused by the negligence, carelessness and/or negligent omissions of Bernard August, individually and t/a Marisa Mango Real Estate, in any or all of the following respects:

- a. Failing to maintain the said real property in a safe manner which would protect lawful patrons such as the plaintiff from any dangerous conditions on the premises and sidewalk;
- b. Failing to inspect the said real property to discovery and repair any dangerous conditions on the premises and sidewalk;
- c. Failing to report and/or warn the Defendant, Richard Devastey, and the plaintiff of any dangerous conditions on the premises and sidewalk that needed to be repaired;
- d. Failing to take all actions necessary to protect the plaintiff from any dangerous conditions on the premises and sidewalk

9. If it is proven at trial or otherwise judicially determined that the Plaintiff suffered damages as described in the Plaintiff's Complaint, said allegations being specifically denied, Richard Devastey avers that the Plaintiff's damages were the result of the actions, omissions, carelessness, negligence, breach or warranty, and negligent omissions of Additional Defendant, Bernard August, indiv. and t/a Marisa Mango Real Estate, and that Additional Defendant is solely liable to the plaintiff, or liable over to Defendant, Richard Devastey, and/or jointly or severally liable on plaintiff's cause of action.

WHEREFORE, Defendant Richard Devastey, respectfully requests that judgment be entered in his favor and against Plaintiff. In the alternative, in the event that judgment is entered in favor of the Plaintiff, Defendant, Richard Devastey, respectfully requests that Additional Defendant, Bernard August, indiv. and t/a Marisa Mango Real Estate, be held liable to Plaintiff,

liable over to Defendant Richard Devastey and/or jointly and/or severally liable over to Defendant Richard Devastey, and further liable to Defendant Richard Devastey for indemnity and/or contribution and such other relief as deemed to be just and appropriate under the circumstances.

LAW OFFICES OF JAMES L. BARLOW



SUSAN J. WIENER, ESQUIRE
Attorney for Defendant
Richard Devastey

VERIFICATION

I, Susan Wiener, hereby verify that I am counsel for Defendant, Richard Devastey, in the above-referenced case. The undersigned verifies that she has read the within document and that the same is true and correct to the best of her knowledge, information and belief. The undersigned understands that the statements set forth in said document are made subject to the penalties of 18 Pa. Cons. Stat. Ann. §4904 relating to unsworn falsification to authorities.



SUSAN WIENER, ESQUIRE

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on this 19, day of December, 2011 I served a true and correct copy of the foregoing Joinder Complaint Against Bernard August by first-class mail, postage prepaid, upon all by first-class mail, postage prepaid, upon all attorneys of record, addressed as follows: Lee D. Rosenfeld, Esquire

Messa & Associates, PC
123 South 22nd Street
Philadelphia PA 19103
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF FRANCES JOYCE
Jeffrey Crooks
708 Dicks Avenue
Philadelphia PA 19142
ATTORNEY FOR CO-DEFENDANT JEFFREY CROOKS,
UNREPRESENTED PARTY

Mary Crooks
6708 Dicks Avenue
Philadelphia PA 19142
ATTORNEY FOR CO-DEFENDANT MARY CROOKS,
UNREPRESENTED PARTY

Thomas Gleason, Jr.
66 Springton Road
Upper Darby PA 19082
ATTORNEY FOR CO-DEFENDANT THOMAS GLEASON,
JR., UNREPRESENTED PARTY

Progress Bank of Florida
c/o FDIC as Receiver Progress Bank
7777 Baymeadows Way West
Jacksonville FL 32256
ATTORNEY FOR CO-DEFENDANT PROGRESS BANK OF
FLORIDA, C/O FDIC AS RECEIVER PROGRESS BANK,
UNREPRESENTED PARTY

Mary Gleason
66 Springton Road
Upper Darby PA 19082
ATTORNEY FOR CO-DEFENDANT MARY GLEASON,
UNREPRESENTED PARTY

Pauline J. Manos, Esquire
1515 Arch Street
14th Floor
Philadelphia PA 19102
ATTORNEY FOR CO-DEFENDANT CITY OF
PHILADELPHIA

Dated: December 19, 2011



SUSAN J. WIENER, ESQUIRE

MESSA & ASSOCIATES, P.C.
By: Joseph L. Messa, Jr., Esquire
Lee D. Rosenfeld, Esquire
Attorney I.D. No.: 53645 / 76081
123 South 22nd Street
Philadelphia, Pa. 19103
(215) 568-3500 / Fax: (215) 568-3501

FRANCES JOYCE
Plaintiff

v.

RICHARD DEVASTEY
5601 Chester Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19143
and
CITY OF PHILADELPHIA
C/O LAW DEPARTMENT
14TH Floor
1515 Arch Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19102
and
PROGRESS BANK OF FLORIDA
c/o FDIC AS Receiver for Progress
Bank of Florida
7777 Baymeadows Way West
Jacksonville, FL 32256
and
JEFFREY CROOKS
6708 Dicks Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19142
and
MARY CROOKS
6708 Dicks Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19142
and
THOMAS GLEASON, JR.
66 Springton Road
Upper Darby, PA 19082
and
MARY GLEASON
66 Springton Road
Upper Darby, PA 19082
Defendants

This is a major case.

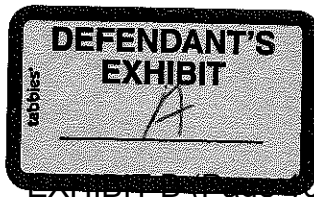
Jury Trial Demanded

Attorneys for Plaintiff

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS
PHILADELPHIA COUNTY

June Term, 2011

No:



Case ID: 110600031
Case ID: 110600031

"NOTICE"

"You have been sued in court. If you wish to defend against the claims set forth in the following pages, you must take action within twenty (20) days after this complaint and notice are served, by entering a written appearance personally or by attorney and filing in writing with the court your defenses or objections to the claims set forth against you. You are warned that if you fail to do so the case may proceed without you and a judgment may be entered against you by the court without further notice for any money claimed in the complaint or for any other claim or relief requested by the plaintiff. You may lose money or property or other rights important to you.

YOU SHOULD TAKE THIS PAPER TO YOUR LAWYER AT ONCE. IF YOU DO NOT HAVE A LAWYER OR CANNOT AFFORD ONE, GO TO OR TELEPHONE THE OFFICE SET FORTH BELOW TO FIND OUT WHERE YOU CAN GET LEGAL HELP."

Philadelphia Bar Association
Lawyer Referral
and Information Service
One Reading Center
Philadelphia, PA 19107
(215) 238-6333
TTY (215) 451-6197

"AVISO"

"Le han demandado a usted en la corte. Si usted quiere defenderse de estas demandas expuestas en las páginas siguientes, usted tiene veinte (20) días de plazo al partir de la fecha de la demanda y la notificación. Hace falta asentar una comparencia escrita o en persona o con un abogado y entregar a la corte en forma escrita sus defensas o sus objeciones a las demandas en contra de su persona. Sea avisado que si usted no se defiende, la corte tomará medidas y puede continuar la demanda en contra suya sin previo aviso o notificación. Además, la corte puede decidir a favor del demandante y requiere que usted cumpla con todas las provisiones de esta demanda. Usted puede perder dinero o sus propiedades u otros derechos importantes para usted.

"LLEVE ESTA DEMANDA A UN ABOGADO INMEDIATAMENTE. SI NO TIENE ABOGADO O SI NO TIENE EL DINERO SUFICIENTE DE PAGAR TAL SERVICIO, VAYA EN PERSONA O LLAME POR TELEFONO A LA OFICINA CUYA DIRECCION SE ENCUENTRA ESCRITA ABAJO PARA AVERIGUAR DONDE SE PUEDE CONSEGUIR ASISTENCIA LEGAL."

Asociacion de Licenciados
de Filadelfia
Servicio de Referencia e
Informacion Legal
One Reading Center
Philadelphia, PA 19107
(215) 238-6333
TTY (215) 451-6197

MESSA & ASSOCIATES, P.C.
 By: Joseph L. Messa, Jr., Esquire
 Lee D. Rosenfeld, Esquire
 Attorney I.D. Nos.: 53645 / 76081
 123 South 22nd Street
 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103
 (215) 568-3500 / Fax: (215) 568-3501

This is a Major Case.

Jury Trial Demanded.

Attorneys for Plaintiff

FRANCIS JOYCE
 6650 Dicks Avenue
 Philadelphia, PA 19142
 Plaintiff

v.

RICHARD DEVASTEY
 5601 Chester Avenue
 Philadelphia, PA 19143
 and
 PROGRESS BANK OF FLORIDA
 C/O FDIC as RECEIVER for PROGRESS
 BANK OF FLORIDA
 7777 Baymeadows Way West
 Jacksonville, FL 32256
 and
 CITY OF PHILADELPHIA
 Law Department - 14th Floor
 1515 Arch Street
 Philadelphia, PA 19102
 and
 JEFFREY CROOKS
 6708 Dicks Avenue
 Philadelphia, PA 19142
 and
 MARY CROOKS
 6708 Dicks Avenue
 Philadelphia, PA 19142
 and
 THOMAS GLEASON, JR
 66 Springton Road
 Upper Darby, PA 19082
 and
 MARY GLEASON
 66 Springton Road
 Upper Darby, PA 19082

PHILADELPHIA COUNTY
 COURT OF COMMON PLEAS

June Term, 2011
 No.

Defendants :

CIVIL ACTION - COMPLAINT

Defendants :

CIVIL ACTION - COMPLAINT

1. Plaintiff Francis Joyce is an adult individual residing at the above captioned address.
2. Defendant Richard Devastey is an adult individual residing at the above captioned address.
3. Defendant Progress Bank of Florida (hereafter "Progress Bank") is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of Florida which regularly conducts business at the above captioned address.
4. Defendant, City of Philadelphia, is a municipal corporation organized as a City of the First Class under the Act of February 2, 1954, P.L., Sec 1; 53 P.S., 16251, as amended, which maintains an office at the above captioned address.
5. Defendant Jeffrey Crooks is an adult individual residing at the above captioned address.
6. Defendant Mary Crooks is an adult individual residing at the above captioned address.
7. Defendant Thomas Gleason, Jr. is an adult individual residing at the above captioned address.
8. Defendant Mary Gleason is an adult individual residing at the above captioned address.
9. At all times relevant hereto, Defendants acted or failed to act by and through their authorized agents, servants, workmen and/or employees who were then and there acting in the

course and scope of their employment and/or agency.

10. On or about July 16, 2009, Defendant Richard Devastey owned, operated, maintained and/or controlled the real property of 6714 Dicks Avenue Philadelphia, PA, including, but not limited to, its abutting pavements and sidewalks.

11. At the above mentioned time and place, Defendant Progress Bank owned, operated, maintained and/or controlled the real property of 6712 Dicks Avenue Philadelphia, PA, including, but not limited to, its abutting pavements and sidewalks.

12. At the above mentioned time and place, Defendant City of Philadelphia had the legal responsibility to maintain the abutting sidewalks of 6712 Dicks Avenue Philadelphia, PA and 6714 Dicks Avenue Philadelphia, PA.

13. At the above mentioned time and place, Defendants Jeffrey Crooks, Mary Crooks, Thomas Gleason, Jr. and/or Mary Gleason owned, possessed and/or kept a dog appearing to be a Shephard mix which was then residing at 6708 Dicks Avenue Philadelphia, PA 19142 and which had vicious propensities to attack human beings without provocation.

14. On July 16, 2009, Plaintiff, Francis Joyce, was a lawful pedestrian along the sidewalk of Dicks Avenue, Philadelphia, PA when he was suddenly attacked by an at large dog owned and/or controlled by Defendants Jeffrey Crooks, Mary Crooks, Thomas Gleason, Jr. and/or Mary Gleason.

15. As a result of being attacked, Plaintiff Francis Joyce attempted to move away from said dog and was caused to trip and fall due to defective concrete upon the sidewalks abutting 6712 and 6714 Dicks Avenue Philadelphia, PA 19142, thereby causing him the injuries and damages more fully set forth at length below.

COUNT I

Francis Joyce v. Richard Devastey

Plaintiff incorporates herein by reference paragraphs 1 through 15 above as fully as if set forth at length below.

16. At the above mentioned place and time, it was a duty of the Defendant Richard Devastey to keep and maintain his premises, including but not limited to its abutting sidewalks in a reasonable and safe condition for pedestrians.

17. At the above mentioned place and time, Defendant Richard Devastey did allow a dangerous condition to exist on said property where Plaintiff Francis Joyce was lawfully proceeding, namely, broken and defective concrete which had existed for some time prior to July 16, 2009.

18. Defendant knew or should have known of the existence of said dangerous condition.

19. The negligence of Defendant Richard Devastey included the following:

- a) failing to maintain said real property in a safe manner which would protect lawful patrons such as the plaintiff from defects and dangerous conditions on said premises;
- b) failing to warn the plaintiff of said defective and dangerous condition on the premises, about which the defendants knew, or in the exercise or reasonable care, should have known;
- c) failing to take all actions necessary to protect the plaintiff and other lawful patrons from said dangerous and defective conditions which could cause injuries to members of the public;
- d) failing to provide a safe area of passage for the plaintiff and other lawful patrons;
- e) allowing said defect to exist on the premises;

- f) failing to provide appropriate warnings of said dangerous condition;
- g) failing to inspect the aforesaid location and ascertain the hazardous and defective condition which existed;

20. As a result of the aforesaid accident, Plaintiff, Francis Joyce, tripped, fell and sustained permanent injuries which include, but are not limited to: a fractured hip requiring corrective surgery and various other ills and injuries.

21. As a direct and proximate result of the aforesaid accident, Plaintiff, Francis Joyce, has suffered and will continue to suffer in the future great pain and suffering depriving Plaintiff of life's pleasures.

22. As a direct and proximate result of the aforesaid accident, Plaintiff, Francis Joyce, has and will in the future continue to spend large sums of money for medicine and medical care in and about an effort to affect a cure for the aforesaid injuries.

23. As a direct and proximate result of the aforesaid accident, Plaintiff, Francis Joyce, has and will in the future be unable to attend or perform his usual daily duties and occupations, all to his great detriment and loss.

24. As a further direct and proximate result of the aforesaid accident, Plaintiff, Francis Joyce, has and will be deprived in the future of earnings and earning capacity all to his great detriment and loss.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, Francis Joyce, demands judgment against the Defendants, jointly and severally, in a sum in excess of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00), plus interest thereon and costs.

COUNT II

Francis Joyce v. Progress Bank

Plaintiff incorporates herein by reference paragraphs 1 through 24 above as fully as if set forth at length below.

25. At the above mentioned place and time, it was a duty of the Defendant Progress Bank to keep and maintain its premises, including but not limited to its abutting sidewalks in a reasonable and safe condition for pedestrians.

26. At the above mentioned place and time, Defendant Progress Bank did allow a dangerous condition to exist on said property where Plaintiff Francis Joyce was lawfully proceeding, namely, broken and defective concrete which had existed for some time prior to July 16, 2009.

27. Defendant knew or should have known of the existence of said dangerous condition.

28. The negligence of Defendant Progress Bank included the following:

- a) failing to maintain said real property in a safe manner which would protect lawful patrons such as the plaintiff from defects and dangerous conditions on said premises;
- b) failing to warn the plaintiff of said defective and dangerous condition on the premises, about which the defendants knew, or in the exercise or reasonable care, should have known;
- c) failing to take all actions necessary to protect the plaintiff and other lawful patrons from said dangerous and defective conditions which could cause injuries to members of the public;
- d) failing to provide a safe area of passage for the plaintiff and other lawful patrons;
- e) allowing said defect to exist on the premises;

- f) failing to provide appropriate warnings of said dangerous condition;
- g) failing to inspect the aforesaid location and ascertain the hazardous and defective condition which existed;

29. As a result of the aforesaid accident, Plaintiff, Francis Joyce, tripped, fell and sustained permanent injuries which include, but are not limited to: a fractured hip requiring corrective surgery and various other ills and injuries.

30. As a direct and proximate result of the aforesaid accident, Plaintiff, Francis Joyce, has suffered and will continue to suffer in the future great pain and suffering depriving Plaintiff of life's pleasures.

31. As a direct and proximate result of the aforesaid accident, Plaintiff, Francis Joyce, has and will in the future continue to spend large sums of money for medicine and medical care in and about an effort to affect a cure for the aforesaid injuries.

32. As a direct and proximate result of the aforesaid accident, Plaintiff, Francis Joyce, has and will in the future be unable to attend or perform his usual daily duties and occupations, all to his great detriment and loss.

33. As a further direct and proximate result of the aforesaid accident, Plaintiff, Francis Joyce, has and will be deprived in the future of earnings and earning capacity all to his great detriment and loss.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, Francis Joyce, demands judgment against the Defendants, jointly and severally, in a sum in excess of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00), plus interest thereon and costs.

COUNT III

Francis Joyce v. City of Philadelphia

Plaintiff incorporates herein by reference paragraphs 1 through 33 above as fully as if set forth at length below.

34. At the above mentioned place and time, it was a duty of the Defendant City of Philadelphia to keep and maintain the sidewalks of 6712 and 6714 Dicks Avenue in a reasonable and safe condition for pedestrians.

35. At the above mentioned place and time, Defendant City of Philadelphia did allow a dangerous condition to exist on said property where Plaintiff Francis Joyce was lawfully proceeding, namely, broken and defective concrete which had existed for some time prior to July 16, 2009.

36. Defendant had actual and/or constructive notice of said dangerous condition.

37. The negligence of Defendant City of Philadelphia included the following:

- a) failing to maintain said sidewalks in a safe manner which would protect lawful patrons such as the plaintiff from defects and dangerous conditions;
- b) failing to warn the plaintiff of said defective and dangerous condition on the sidewalks, about which the defendants knew, or in the exercise or reasonable care, should have known;
- c) failing to take all actions necessary to protect the plaintiff and other lawful patrons from said dangerous and defective conditions which could cause injuries to members of the public;
- d) failing to provide a safe area of passage for the plaintiff and other lawful patrons;
- e) allowing said defects to exist on the sidewalks;
- f) failing to provide appropriate warnings of said dangerous condition;
- g) failing to inspect the aforesaid location and ascertain the hazardous and

defective condition which existed;

38. As a result of the aforesaid accident, Plaintiff, Francis Joyce, tripped, fell and sustained permanent injuries which include, but are not limited to: a fractured hip requiring corrective surgery and various other ills and injuries.

39. As a direct and proximate result of the aforesaid accident, Plaintiff, Francis Joyce, has suffered and will continue to suffer in the future great pain and suffering depriving Plaintiff of life's pleasures.

40. As a direct and proximate result of the aforesaid accident, Plaintiff, Francis Joyce, has and will in the future continue to spend large sums of money for medicine and medical care in and about an effort to affect a cure for the aforesaid injuries.

41. As a direct and proximate result of the aforesaid accident, Plaintiff, Francis Joyce, has and will in the future be unable to attend or perform his usual daily duties and occupations, all to his great detriment and loss.

42. As a further direct and proximate result of the aforesaid accident, Plaintiff, Francis Joyce, has and will be deprived in the future of earnings and earning capacity all to his great detriment and loss.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, Francis Joyce, demands judgment against the Defendants, jointly and severally, in a sum in excess of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00), plus interest thereon and costs.

COUNT IV

Francis Joyce v. Jeffrey Crooks, Mary Crooks, Thomas Gleason, Jr. and Mary Gleason

Plaintiff incorporates herein by reference paragraphs 1 through 42 above as fully as if set forth at length below.

43. At the above mentioned place and time, Defendants Jeffrey Crooks, Mary Crooks, Thomas Gleason, Jr. and/or Mary Gleason owned, possessed and/or kept a dog appearing to be a Shephard mix which was then residing at 6708 Dicks Avenue Philadelphia, PA 19142.

44. Defendants knew or should have known that said dog had a propensity of attacking human beings without provocation and/or failed to properly leash it or take other precautions to prevent the attack upon Plaintiff Francis Joyce.

45. The negligence of Defendants Jeffrey Crooks, Mary Crooks, Thomas Gleason, Jr. and/or Mary Gleason included, but is not limited to, the following:

- a) allowing the dog to be at large, in violation of the City of Philadelphia's animal ordinances;
- b) failing to exercise reasonable care in securing the dog;
- c) failing to properly control the dog;
- d) failing to take reasonable precaution to protect pedestrians from the dog;
- e) failing to provide pedestrians with appropriate warnings; and
- f) allowing the dog to attack Plaintiff Francis Joyce on the sidewalk of Dicks Avenue, Philadelphia, PA.

46. As a result of the aforesaid accident, Plaintiff, Francis Joyce, tripped, fell and sustained permanent injuries which include, but are not limited to: a fractured hip requiring corrective surgery and various other ills and injuries.

47. As a direct and proximate result of the aforesaid accident, Plaintiff,

Francis Joyce, has suffered and will continue to suffer in the future great pain and suffering depriving Plaintiff of life's pleasures.

48. As a direct and proximate result of the aforesaid accident, Plaintiff, Francis Joyce, has and will in the future continue to spend large sums of money for medicine and medical care in and about an effort to affect a cure for the aforesaid injuries.

49. As a direct and proximate result of the aforesaid accident, Plaintiff, Francis Joyce, has and will in the future be unable to attend or perform his usual daily duties and occupations, all to his great detriment and loss.

50. As a further direct and proximate result of the aforesaid accident, Plaintiff, Francis Joyce, has and will be deprived in the future of earnings and earning capacity all to his great detriment and loss.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, Francis Joyce, demands judgment against the Defendants, jointly and severally, in a sum in excess of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00), plus interest thereon and costs.

Respectfully submitted,
MESSA & ASSOCIATES, P.C.

/s/ Lee D. Rosenfeld

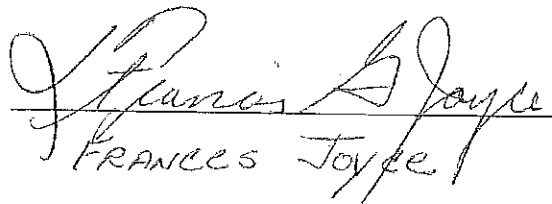
Lee D. Rosenfeld
Attorney for Plaintiff

Dated: June 6, 2011

VERIFICATION

I, *FRANCES JOYCE*, Plaintiff herein makes this Verification and states that the statements made in the foregoing are true and correct to the best of his/her knowledge, information, and belief.

The undersigned understands that the statements therein are made subject to the penalties of 18 Pa. C.S.A. §4904, relating to unsworn falsification to authorities.


FRANCES JOYCE

Dated: 6-6-11

To the herein **PARTIES** you are hereby notified to file response to the enclosed **NEW MATTER** within **20** days of service thereof or a judgment may be entered against you.


SUSAN J. WIENER, ESQUIRE



Law Offices of James L. Barlow
By: Susan J. Wiener, Esquire
Attorney I.D. No.: 65301
900 E. 8th Avenue, Suite 301
King of Prussia PA 19406
(610) 382-8100

Attorney for Defendant,
Richard Devasety

FRANCES JOYCE

Plaintiff,

v.

RICHARD DEVASTEY
AND
JEFFREY CROOKS
AND
MARY CROOKS
AND
THOMAS GLEASON, JR.
AND
MARY GLEASON
AND
PROGRESS BANK OF FLORIDA, C/O FDIC
AS RECEIVER PROGRESS BANK
AND
CITY OF PHILADELPHIA

Defendant.

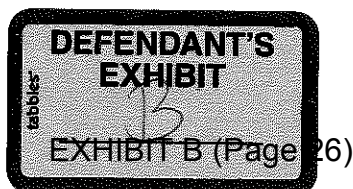
: COURT OF COMMON PLEAS
: PHILADELPHIA COUNTY

:
: CIVIL ACTION

:
: JUNE TERM 2011

:
: NO. 0031

**ANSWER ON BEHALF OF DEFENDANT, RICHARD DEVASETY TO PLAINTIFF'S
COMPLAINT WITH NEW MATTER AND NEW MATTER CROSSCLAIM**



Case ID: 110600031
Case ID: 110600031

1. Denied. After reasonable investigation, answering defendant is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the averments contained in the corresponding paragraphs of Plaintiff's Complaint. If relevant, strict proof at trial is hereby demanded.

2. Admitted in part, denied in part. It is admitted that Defendant, Richard Devastey, is an adult individual. The remaining allegations are denied, as defendant does not reside at the address plead. To the contrary, the defendant resides in Texas.

3--8. The allegations contained in the corresponding paragraphs of Plaintiff's Complaint are addressed to parties other than Answering Defendant and therefore no response is required. If relevant, strict proof at trial is hereby demanded.

9. Denied. The allegations contained in the corresponding paragraphs of Plaintiff's Complaint contain conclusions of law to which no response is required. If relevant, strict proof at trial is hereby demanded.

10. Admitted in part, denied in part. It is admitted only that, at all material times, the real property at 6714 Dicks Avenue, Philadelphia, PA was owned by Defendant, Richard Devastey. It is specifically denied that answering defendant operated, maintained and controlled the property and the abutting sidewalks and strict proof is demanded at trial. By way of further answer, at all material times, the defendant was a landlord out of possession.

11-13. The allegations contained in the corresponding paragraphs of Plaintiff's Complaint are addressed to parties other than Answering Defendant and therefore no response is required. If relevant, strict proof at trial is hereby demanded

14. Denied. After reasonable investigation, answering defendant is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the averments contained in

the corresponding paragraphs of Plaintiff's Complaint. If relevant, strict proof at trial is hereby demanded.

15. Denied. It is specifically denied that any defective condition existed at the aforesaid property and strict proof of same is demanded at trial. After reasonable investigation, answering defendant is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the remaining averments contained in the corresponding paragraph of Plaintiff's Complaint. If relevant, strict proof at trial is hereby demanded.

COUNT I

Answering Defendant incorporates paragraphs 1-15 of this Answer with New Matter as though same were set forth at length herein.

16. Denied. The allegations contained in the corresponding paragraph of Plaintiff's Complaint contain conclusions of law to which no response is required. If relevant, strict proof at trial is hereby demanded.

17-19. Denied. The allegations contained in the corresponding paragraphs of Plaintiff's Complaint contain conclusions of law to which no response is required. If relevant, it is specifically denied that there was any dangerous condition on the aforesaid property which caused the alleged injuries and strict proof at trial is hereby demanded.

20—24. Denied. After reasonable investigation, answering defendant is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the averments contained in the corresponding paragraphs of Plaintiff's Complaint. If relevant, strict proof at trial is hereby demanded.

WHEREFORE, Answering Defendant, Richard Devasety demands judgment in his favor and against Plaintiff, together with costs, attorney's fees and other such relief as this Court deems just and appropriate.

COUNT II

Answering Defendant incorporates paragraphs 1-24 of this Answer with New Matter as though same were set forth at length herein.

25-33. The allegations contained in the corresponding paragraphs of Plaintiff's Complaint are addressed to parties other than Answering Defendant and therefore no response is required. If relevant, strict proof at trial is hereby demanded.

WHEREFORE, answering Defendant, Richard Devasety, demands judgment in his favor and against Plaintiff, together with costs, attorney's fees and other such relief as this Court deems just and appropriate.

COUNT III

Answering Defendant incorporates paragraphs 1-33 of this Answer with New Matter as though same were set forth at length herein.

34-42. The allegations contained in the corresponding paragraphs of Plaintiff's Complaint are addressed to parties other than Answering Defendant and therefore no response is required. If relevant, strict proof at trial is hereby demanded.

WHEREFORE, answering Defendant, Richard Devasety, demands judgment in his favor and against Plaintiff, together with costs, attorney's fees and other such relief as this Court deems just and appropriate.

COUNT IV

Answering Defendant incorporates paragraphs 1-42 of this Answer with New Matter as though same were set forth at length herein.

43-50. The allegations contained in the corresponding paragraphs of Plaintiff's Complaint are addressed to parties other than Answering Defendant and therefore no response is required. If relevant, strict proof at trial is hereby demanded.

WHEREFORE, answering Defendant, Richard Devasety, demands judgment in his favor and against Plaintiff, together with costs, attorney's fees and other such relief as this Court deems just and appropriate.

NEW MATTER DIRECTED AGAINST PLAINTIFF

51. Plaintiff's Complaint fails to state a cause of action upon which relief may be granted.

52. Plaintiff's claims are barred in whole or part by the provisions of the Pennsylvania Comparative Negligence Act.

53. It is further averred that if the Plaintiff suffered any injuries and/or damages as alleged, they were caused solely and primarily by Plaintiff's own carelessness, recklessness and negligence.

54. By his actions on the date, time and place stated in Plaintiff's Complaint, Plaintiff did assume the risk of any and all injuries and/or damages which Plaintiff allege to have suffered.

55. If there is a legal responsibility for the damages set forth in Plaintiff's Complaint, then the responsibility is that of other individuals and/or entities over whom the Answering

Defendant has no control. Plaintiff's injuries and damages as alleged were not caused in any manner whatsoever by the Answering Defendant.

56. Plaintiff's claims are barred by the applicable Statute of Limitations.

57. In the event that the Plaintiff request damages for delay pursuant to Pa.R.C.P. 238, answering defendant challenge the applicability and constitutionality of said rule, and places same at issue.

58. If Plaintiff fell, which is specifically denied, it was not due to any act or omission of the Defendant.

59. If there was a dangerous or defective condition present on the premises in question, which is specifically denied, it was open and obvious and the Plaintiff should have been aware of the alleged condition and therefore the Defendant cannot be liable.

60. If the Plaintiff fell which is specifically denied, it was due to acts and/or omissions of the plaintiff.

61. If the Plaintiff fell which is specifically denied, it was due to his failure to observe where she was walking.

62. If the Plaintiff fell which is specifically denied, it was due to acts and/or omissions of persons and/or entities over whom the Answering Defendant had no control.

63. Answering Defendant asserts all defenses applicable to landlords out of possession.

WHEREFORE, Answering Defendant, Richard Devasety, demands judgment in his favor and against Plaintiff, together with costs, attorney's fees and other such relief as this Court deems just and appropriate.

**NEW MATTER CROSSCLAIM PURSUANT TO Pa.R.C.P. 1031.1
DIRECTED TO CO-DEFENDANTS**

64 Pursuant to the provisions of Pa.R.C.P. 1031.1, the Answering Defendant, Richard Devasety, asserts that Co-Defendants, Progress Bank of Florida c/o FDIC as Receiver Progress Bank of Florida, Jeffrey Crooks, Mary Crooks, Thomas Gleason, Jr., Mary Gleason and City of Philadelphia are alone liable or are jointly and severally liable or are liable over to the Answering Defendant on the cause of action asserted by the Plaintiff, Frances Joyce, due to their negligence and/or carelessness; and therefore, the aforesaid Co-Defendants are severed and joined as Additional Defendants in this action.

WHEREFORE, Co-Defendants, Progress Bank of Florida c/o FDIC as Receiver Progress Bank of Florida, Jeffrey Crooks, Mary Crooks, Thomas Gleason, Jr., Mary Gleason and City of Philadelphia are alone liable or jointly or severally liable for injuries or losses which Plaintiff may have so sustained, and Answering Defendant demands judgment in his favor; however, if liability is imposed upon Answering Defendant, Richard Devastey, he demands that judgment be entered against the Additional Defendants for contribution and/or indemnity.

LAW OFFICES OF JAMES L. BARLOW



SUSAN J. WIENER, ESQUIRE
Attorney for Defendant
Richard Devasety

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned hereby certifies that a true and correct copy of the foregoing Answer with New Matter was served electronically this 13 day of December, 2011 upon the following counsel of record:

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Philadelphia PA 19142

ATTORNEY FOR CO-DEFENDANT JEFFREY CROOKS,
UNREPRESENTED PARTY

Mary Crooks
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Thomas Gleason, Jr.
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Upper Darby PA 19082

ATTORNEY FOR CO-DEFENDANT THOMAS GLEASON,
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ATTORNEY FOR CO-DEFENDANT CITY OF
PHILADELPHIA



SUSAN J. WIENER, ESQUIRE

VERIFICATION

I, Richard Devasety, hereby state that I am a defendant in this matter and that all of the facts stated in the foregoing Answer with New Matter are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief. This Verification is taken subject to the penalties of 18 Pa. C.S.A. §4904, relating to unsworn falsification to authorities.


RICHARD DEVASETY

Date: